Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method for securely communicating financial information, comprising:

receiving ~~over an electronic computer network~~ <u>at a repository computing device</u> a message communicated according to a field delimited communication protocol pursuant to which the message comprises a financial data field and a field value corresponding to the financial data field and the message has a standard, publicly-known meaning within the field delimited communication protocol<u>, said computing repository device having been specifically programmed to facilitate financial transactions and receive and store information concerning a coded meaning for the message that is defined to be different than the standard, publicly-known meaning within the field delimited protocol</u>;

and interpreting said message according to a coded meaning defined to be different than the standard, publicly-known meaning within the field delimited communication protocol, <u>using information stored in the repository computing device</u>.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the field delimited communication protocol is the Financial Information Exchange (FIX) Protocol, or a protocol derived therefrom.

3. (original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the message communicates a number of shares ordered or offered.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the financial data field is a FIX tag 38 entry.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the coded meaning communicates a number of shares of a financial transaction to which the message pertains that is different than the standard, publicly-known meaning within the field delimited communication protocol.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the message corresponds to an Indication of Interest (IOI) for a number of shares.

7. (currently amended) A method for securely communicating financial information using a computing device specifically programmed to facilitate financial transactions, comprising:

using the computing device to ~~encoding~~ define a coded meaning for a message communicated in a field delimited communication protocol pursuant to which the message comprises a financial data field and a field value corresponding to the financial data field, wherein the coded meaning is different from ~~in which the message has~~ a the

standard, publicly-known meaning within the field delimited communication protocol ~~in~~ according to which the message would ordinarily be interpreted~~, to have a meaning different from the standard, publicly-known meaning~~; and

using the computing device to transmit ~~transmitting~~ said ~~encoded message~~ coded meaning over an electronic computer network to one or more counterparty computing devices specifically programmed to facilitate financial transactions to facilitate financial transactions with the one or more counterparty computing devices to facilitate communicating financial transactions using the coded meaning.

8. (original)   The method of claim 7, wherein the field delimited communication protocol is the Financial Information Exchange (FIX) Protocol, or a protocol derived therefrom.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the message represents a number of shares ordered or offered.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the financial data field is a FIX tag 38 entry.

11. (previously presented)   The method of claim 7, wherein the message corresponds to a number of shares of a financial transaction to which the message pertains.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the ~~encoded~~ message corresponds to an Indication of Interest (IOI) for a number of shares.

13. (currently amended) A method for securely communicating financial information using a repository computing device specifically programmed to facilitate financial transactions connected one or more order management system computing devices, comprising:

receiving at the repository computing device over a first electronic computer network a first message, said first message in a field delimited communication protocol pursuant to which the first message comprises a first financial data field and a first field value corresponding to the first financial data field, in which the message has a standard, publicly-known meaning within the field delimited communication protocol;

transmitting over a second electronic computer network, a second message, using the repository computing device, said second message in the field delimited communication protocol comprising a second financial data field and a second field value corresponding to the second financial data field, in which the second message has a standard, publicly-known meaning within the field delimited communication protocol; and

at least one of said first and second messages being interpreted by the repository computing device as encoded, wherein each encoded message is intended to have a

meaning different from the standard, publicly-known meaning within the field delimited communication protocol, wherein, said first and second electronic network and said first and second messages are not necessarily distinct.

14. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the field delimited communication protocol is the Financial Information Exchange (FIX) Protocol, or a protocol derived therefrom.

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the first and second financial data fields are order value fields.

16. (currently amended): The method of claim 13, wherein the first and second messages corresponds to a number of shares of a financial transaction to which the messages pertain.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the first message corresponds to an Indication of Interest (IOI) for a number of shares.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, further comprising:

determining whether corresponding entries first field value and the second field value match; and

if the match is successful, transmitting a notification to one or more

broker/dealers.

19. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein the transmitted notification is not

encoded.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein said first message is

encoded, and wherein said transmitted notification is made to a plurality of receivers,

further comprising:

      receiving from a receiver a reply to said second message; and

      determining whether the first field value and the second field value match.

21. (original) The method of claim 20, wherein if the match is successful, transmitting a

notification to one or more broker dealers.

22. (currently amended) ~~An apparatus~~ <u>A repository computing device specifically</u>

<u>programmed</u> for securely communicating financial information <u>concerning financial</u>

<u>transactions,</u> comprising:

      a receiver for receiving over an electronic computer network a message

communicated in a field delimited communication protocol pursuant to which the

message comprises a financial data field and a field value corresponding to the financial

data field and the message has a standard, publicly-known meaning under the field delimited communication protocol, wherein the message is coded to have a <u>coded</u> meaning different than the standard, publicly-known meaning under the field delimited communication protocol;

a database that stores information concerning the coded meaning; and

an interpreter for interpreting the message <u>according to the coded meaning</u> ~~to have a meaning different from the standard, publicly-known meaning under the field delimited communication protocol~~.

23. (currently amended)   An ~~apparatus~~ <u>computing device</u> for securely communicating financial information <u>containing a set of computer instructions that when executed cause the computing device to</u>, ~~comprising~~:

~~an encoder~~ <u>receive instructions</u> for encoding a message in a field delimited communication protocol pursuant to which the message comprises a financial data field and a field value corresponding to the field of financial data and has a standard, publicly-known meaning under the field delimited communication protocol, wherein said encoded message is intended to have a <u>coded</u> meaning different from the standard, publicly-known meaning for entries in said specified field; and

~~a transmitter for transmitting~~ <u>transmit instructions communicating</u> said ~~encoded message~~ <u>coded meaning</u> over an electronic computer network <u>to a repository computing device that stores the coded meaning; and</u>

transcript instructions communicating said coded meaning over an electronic

computer network to one or more trading computing devices to facilitate trading with the

one or more trading computing devices using the coded meaning.

24. (currently amended) An ~~apparatus~~ repository computing device for securely

communicating financial information and facilitating financial transactions containing a

set of instructions that when executed cause the repository computing device to

~~comprising~~:

a ~~receiver for receiving~~ receive over a first electronic computer network a first

message, said first message communicated in a field delimited communication

protocol pursuant to which the message comprises a first financial data field and a first

field value corresponding to the financial data field and has a standard, publicly-known

meaning under the field delimited communication protocol;

a ~~transmitter for transmitting~~ transmit over a second electronic computer network,

a second message, said second message communicated in the field delimited

communication protocol pursuant to which the message comprises a first financial data

field and a first field value corresponding to the field of financial data and has a standard,

publicly-known meaning under the field delimited communication protocol; and

at least one of said first and second messages being interpreted by the

repository computing device as encoded, wherein each encoded message is intended to

have a meaning different from the standard, publicly-known meaning under the field

delimited communication protocol;

wherein, said first and second electronic network, said first and second

entries, and said first and second messages are not necessarily distinct.